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NIE-40 (Economic)

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UNDERWATER WEAPONS

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25X1

II. DISCUSSION:

This report will discuss the advantage in underwater weapons which Russia would acquire if they should overrun the countries of the Soviet bloc and those of Western Europe.

It is assumed that the underwater equipments and facilities of these countries would be captured intact, including their stockpiles and warehouses, and that the management and labor of industrial concerns working on underwater weapons would be put at the disposal of the Soviets.

A. Soviet European Bloc:

1. Czechoslovakia - The Soviets, at the present time, are probably getting some production from Czechoslovakia in the way of mine and torpedo components. It is possible that many of the German World War II facilities may be contributing some research in mine firing devices. There also exists a potential for producing torpedoes.

2. Austria - There exists a production potential here and a limited research capability. The Goertz Optical Co. was active in German World War II mine work.

3. Hungary - As in the case of Austria, the potential exists in production. It is not believed that new underwater weapons will be developed here.

4. Romania - The USSR has been supplying Romania with mines and, undoubtedly, with any torpedoes that may be required. Romania could produce moored mines if required by the USSR to do so.

5. Bulgaria - Like Romania, Bulgaria is on the receiving end of underwater weapons from the USSR.

6. Albania - Limited quantities of Soviet mines, torpedoes and depth charges are most probably available to Albania.

7. Poland - has a production capability in underwater weapons. At present, Poland has French, German and Russian type torpedoes as well as German and Russian mines. There are indications that Poland has started production of moored mines for the Soviets.

B. Soviet Asiatic Bloc

It is very improbable that the Asiatic countries will develop any underwater weapons with the exception of improvised mines.

NIE 40 (ECONOMIC)
11 B and 11 C

UNDERWATER WEAPONS

The purpose of this report is to discuss the underwater weapons, the underwater research laboratories and plants, and the advantages in underwater weapons which the Soviet Union would acquire from countries of the Soviet Bloc and from those of Western Europe if these countries should be overrun by Russia.

I. CONCLUSIONS:

With the possible exception of Czechoslovakia and Poland, Russia would gain very little of significance as far as underwater ordnance is concerned by overrunning the countries of the Soviet Bloc. In the case of these two countries, there exists a significant industrial potential for producing mines, torpedoes and component parts.

In case Western Europe should be overrun the countries which would contribute the most to Russian potential as far as underwater ordnance is concerned are as follows:

Sweden: limited numbers of mines, torpedoes and some research and industrial production ability.

Norway: some British, German and U.S. mines and torpedoes.

Western Germany: considerable production ability.

France: Research laboratories, St. Tropez torpedo test center, considerable equipment now in the fleet.

Italy: considerable research, development and production capability.

Yugoslavia: limited quantities of German and Italian torpedoes, and some Russian mines are available.

The overrunning of countries such as Finland, Belgium and Portugal would add very little of significance to the Soviet potential as far as underwater weapons are concerned. Countries like Denmark, Austria, Spain and Switzerland have very little equipment of their own and would contribute to the Soviet potential chiefly through industrial production of component parts for underwater ordnance items.

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The Communist Chinese undoubtedly have available large quantities of Japanese World War II mines, and also quantities of Japanese torpedoes. However these stockpiles are presumably considered inadequate since reports have stated that the Russians have been sending mines and torpedoes into China. China, nevertheless, has production capabilities.

The status of Inner Mongolia cannot be determined, but if a potential exists, it is most probably one of production.

Korea will undoubtedly remain on the receiving end of Russian aid in underwater weapons.

C. Finland - No new underwater weapons under development.

D. Sweden - The most significant development is rocket-propelled depth charge with a proximity fuze [redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted]

Sweden has available limited number of mines, both moored contact and ground influence; also available are limited quantities of torpedoes.

E. Norway - Under development is a rocket-propelled depth charge. However, this weapon is not yet available.

Present weapons include the following:

1. British, German and Norwegian torpedoes.
2. German pattern running torpedoes fired from shore installations.
3. Norwegian, British and U.S. mines.
4. U.S. depth charges and hedgehogs.

F. Denmark - Has no weapons under development. Available is a new modern torpedo test station. Denmark purchases mines and torpedoes from the British. Included in the underwater ordnance stockpile are approximately 1000 mines.

G. West Germany - This area has a production capability; no new weapons under development.

H. Netherlands - The Netherlands have available limited quantities of moored contact mines. No underwater weapons are under development.

[redacted]

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I. Belgium - No significant underwater ordnance potential.

J. France - [redacted]

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[redacted]

The French are still using limited numbers of German pattern running torpedoes and some Italian torpedoes. However, all production of torpedoes and mines has been stopped presumably to await the standardization agreements of the North Atlantic countries.

K. Switzerland - Has a capability for the production of mine and torpedo components. No underwater weapons work is being pursued.

L. Austria - No underwater weapons projects have been identified. However, the various technical facilities have the capability to develop various mine and torpedo components.

M. Spain - Spain has available limited quantities of German and British 18-inch and 21-inch torpedoes. Moored contact mines are also stockpiled, but their material condition is not known. Spain has a production capability, but its significance cannot be judged. No weapons under development.

N. Portugal - Portugal has very little in the way of underwater weapons. There is no development and probably very little production potential.

O. Italy - There are no new underwater weapons projects underway. Italy, however, is considered to be capable of undertaking almost any underwater weapons project. There is also a very signigicant production capability here.

P. Yugoslavia - Available at pres nt are limited quantities of German and Italian torpedoes and Russian mines. Yugoslavia is reportedly working on wireguided torpedoes at the Rankovic Factory, Rijeka. This development is not believed to be in an advanced stage.

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